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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 25, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended June 20 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 0.3 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 25 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 431.8 billion ton-miles, 2.4 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended June 20 totaled 437,422 cars, 2.5 percent below 1980, but 5.2 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 1.9 percent in the East, 3.5 percent in the South, and 2.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 13 of the 21 commodity groups were down, with coal loadings down 8.1 percent. Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 25.5 percent. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the week ended June 13 totaled 34,009 cars, up 6.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 60,593 trailers and/or containers, up 3.1 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 24 weeks of the year was 773,803 cars, 1.4 percent lower than last year, and 1,402,003 trailers and/or containers, down 1.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 6/20/81:

	Loadings in Week ended June 20, 1981	Change from Corresponding Week 1980			Change from Preceding Week		
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,682	D	1,636	5.6	I	2,473	9.8
Other farm products	4,086	D	606	12.9	D	407	9.1
Metallic ores	37,747	I	2,730	7.8	I	1,627	4.5
Coal	110,633	D	9,798	8.1	I	18,445	20.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,873	D	1,129	7.5	I	642	4.9
Nonmetallic minerals	13,202	D	4,059	23.5	D	1,445	9.9
Grain mill products	13,791	D	2,567	15.7	D	135	1.0
Food and kindred products	15,209	D	2,767	15.4	D	151	1.0
Primary forest products	18,786	D	1,911	9.2	I	349	1.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,904	D	201	2.2	I	490	5.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	19,584	D	998	4.8	I	325	1.7
Chemicals and allied products	26,455	I	1,378	5.5	I	175	0.7
Petroleum products	4,855	D	522	9.7	D	153	3.1
Stone, clay and glass products	14,116	D	620	4.2	I	4	0.0
Coke	7,213	I	2,459	51.7	D	175	2.4
Metals and products	16,219	I	2,096	14.8	I	54	0.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,896	I	4,046	25.5	D	400	2.0
Waste and scrap materials	12,611	I	2,029	19.2	D	155	1.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,680	D	656	6.3	D	450	4.4
All other carloads	42,659	I	1,562	3.8	I	617	1.5
LCL traffic	221	I	25	12.8	-	-	-
Total Cars Loaded	437,422	D	11,145	2.5	I	21,730	5.2
Corresponding week of 1980	448,567						

	1981	1980	% Change	
Total Cars Loaded (25 weeks)	10,316,599	11,033,564	D	6.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
24 Weeks cumulative	413.7	424.3	D	2.5
Week ended June 20	18.0	18.1	D	0.3
25 Weeks cumulative	431.8	442.4	D	2.4

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